

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3086

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 3990

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, TZ, RH

SUBJ: TANZANIAN OBSERVERS AT GENEVA CONFERENCE

1. TANZANIA HAS APPOINTED TWO-MAN DELEGATION TO "FOLLOW UP THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA" COMPOSED OF SALIM A. SALIM, TANZANIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN, AND JOSEPH WARIOBA, ATTORNEY GENERAL. ACCORDING TO LOCAL MEDIA, THEY LEFT FOR GENEVA OCT 24.

2. SALIM HAS FOR SOME YEARS BEEN A MILITANT LEADER IN UN THIRD-WORLD CIRCLES, BOTH AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF 24 (ON DECOLONIZATION) AND FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS AS TANZANIA'S SPOKESMAN ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THOUGH AN ARDENT AND EFFECTIVE EXPONENT OF OFTEN VEHEMENTLY ANTI-AMERICAN THIRD-WORLD POSITIONS, SALIM HAS NEVERTHELESS BEEN ABLE TO DEAL WITH WESTERN DIPLOMATS IN A FRIENDLY, RELAXED MANNER. HE IS ALSO A SKILLED NEGOTIATOR, CAPABLE OF AVOIDING CONFRONTATION AND WORKING OUT ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISES WHEN HE WISHES TO.

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3. WE UNDERSTND THAT SALIM RELUCTANT GO TO GENEVA DUE TO CONCERN OVER UPCOMING UN MATTERS OF CONCERN TO TANGOV AND HIS LACK OF PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH ZIMBABWEAN LEADERS. HOWEVER, TANGOV CONVINCED IVOR RICHARDS IS KEY FIGURE AT GENEVA AND SALIM ENJOYS GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM. ACCORDINGLY, SALIM ORDERED TO GO IN BELIEF HIS ACCESS TO RICHARDS PROVIDES BEST MEANS OF BRINGING TANZANIAN INFLUENCE TO BEAR ON OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE.

4. SALIM HAS BEEN TANZANIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN SINCE 1970, AND HAD PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS TANZANIAN REPRESENTATIVE IN EGYPT, INDIA, AND THE PRC. HE IS A ZANZIBARI BY BIRTH, BUT HAS NOT RECENTLY BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH ZANZIBARI AFFAIRS.

5. JOSEPH WARIOBA IS ALSO AN EXPERIENCED DIPLOMAT, WHO HAS LED TANZANIAN DELEGATIONS TO LAW OF THE SEA MEETINGS, WHERE HE HAS ESTABLISHED HIMSELF AS SOMETHING OF AN AUTHORITY. HE HAS BEEN FRIENDLY TO AMERICANS, AND CAN DISCUSS POLICY DISAGREEMENTS DISPASSIONATELY AND WITH GOOD HUMOR. HIS MANNER IS DIRECT, IF INITIALLY COOL, AND HE RESPONDS BEST TO A PRIVATE, DIRECT, APPROACH. BEFORE BEING NAMED TO ATTORNEY GENERAL EARLY IN 1976, WARIOBA WAS DIRECTOR OF THE LEGAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIVISION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. HE HAS VISITED THE US ON MANY OCCASIONS.

6. COMMENT: BOTH SALIM AND WARIOBA WOULD BE SUITABLE CONTACTS FOR US OFFICIALS IN GENEVA, AND THEIR VIEWS SHOULD BE OF INTEREST, THOUGH BOTH ARE FAITHFUL SUPPORTERS OF TANGOV POLICIES. SALIM, DESPITE HIS INEXPERIENCE IN RHODESIAN MATTERS, COULD PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN A COMPLICATED DIPLOMATIC SITUATION.
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